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subject, a statement which would have been rash, indeed, before Mr. Jones gave us the fruit of his labors. The same might be said of other portions of the work.

A very valuable feature is the abundant presentment of statute law, a feature which was really rendered essential by the nature of the subjects treated; but it is matter for regret that the references are too often made to compilations only, and not to the annual volumes of laws. An index of statutory law, though involving much additional labor, would have been an important adjunct to the work.

The index, too, might have been fuller. As it is, it savors too much of the logical arrangement of the work, and not enough of the alphabetical nature of an index proper. You will find the titles "contractor" and "sub-contractor" safe and sound under the shelter of "Mechanics' Liens," but will look for them in vain in their alphabetical place. So with many other subjects.

It is also disappointing to find the subject of municipal liens dismissed with a cursory reference to the liens of taxes and water rents. These are certainly matters of great importance, and fall as legitimately within the scope of the work as do Mechanics' Liens. It may be, however, that the author felt himself restrained within the bounds of the property relations between private individuals, in which case the liens of the public would not strictly belong to the subject in hand. Yet, treated as Mechanics' Liens have been, it would have greatly enhanced the value of the work; and we may be permitted to express the hope that in the future the author may turn his hand to this subject also.

R. D. S.

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FORMS IN CONVEYANCING AND GENERAL LEGAL FORMS, Comprising Precedents for Ordinary Use, and Clauses Adapted to Special and Unusual Cases. With Practical Notes, by LEONARD A. JONES. Fourth Edition. Boston and New York. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1894.

The first edition of Mr. JONES's work made its appearance about seven years ago. Only last year we expressed our

admiration for the book on the publication of the third edition. That the fourth is already before us is sufficient evidence of its success.

A book of legal forms is perhaps not *essential* to the library of an old practitioner, but to any law library it is a convenient addition, and to a young and inexperienced member of the profession an invaluable aid, for it saves him much time and may save him many mistakes. Of course, it is upon its being practical and absolutely accurate that the value of any book of forms depend. It must contain models of all documents included in its subject that a lawyer finds himself called upon to draft. The field of conveyancing is a broad one, extending, as it does, from the simplest deed or argument to the most involved will or complicated mortgage.

Mr. JONES's work fulfils its mission. It gives us the forms of conveyance of every kind which the various states prescribe, or their courts sanction. These are well suited to the practitioner's needs. The precedents are skilfully and carefully prepared.

The general arrangement is admirable. Foot notes call attention to variations in the different states from the forms given, with references to the state laws.

W. S. E.

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We owe an apology to the publishers of the General Digest of the United States, the Lawyers Co-Operative Publishing Company, Limited, for a misstatement of fact in our review of that work, which appeared in the February number of the AMERICAN LAW REGISTER AND REVIEW. We stated that the cases which were printed in small type, which were apparently notes to the other reported cases, were not, as notes, very useful. We mistook the character of these small cases, which were printed in small type. They are bye-report cases. Our criticism, therefore, to these cases as notes was a criticism on an entire misconception of the nature of the cases. Undoubtedly bye-reports are useful in a Digest. It is also a good idea to print them in small type, so that one can immediately discern whether the principle annunciated is one which has the authority of a court of the last resort.